

SHEFFIELD DENIES HE CHOKED HIS WIFE

Lawyer Says He Tried, but Could Not Cure Her of Being Untruthful.

CURIOSITY OVER WOMAN

That Mrs. Rena Cary Sheffield, who wrote "The Golden Hallow" and other novels, has been untruthful all her life, that she not only exaggerated things, but lied, was the blunt assertion made by her husband, Justus Sheffield, New York lawyer and member of the Harvard and Lamb's clubs, before Vice-Chancellor Vivian M. Lewis in the Chancery Chambers in Jersey City yesterday afternoon. He said he had devoted much of his married life endeavoring to teach the author how to be truthful, but he confessed that he had failed. Sheffield, who is seeking a divorce for desertion, while Mrs. Sheffield in turn is suing for a decree under a cross petition, in which she charges that she was the victim of her husband's "subtle cruelty," further testified that she for years—given down to the present time—had been treated with "extreme brutality."

Curious Over Woman.

Since the beginning of the trial a woman with iron gray hair quite closely cropped and most of the time wearing a light brown dress has been an interested spectator. Yesterday afternoon she took a seat beside Sheffield and his counsel, Merritt Lane. Mrs. Sheffield and her friends were curious to know who she might be. Some of the more romantic viewed that she was "the mysterious lady" with whom Sheffield had frequently been seen by a private detective, who testified at Wednesday's session. The young woman helped the mystery along by replying to inquiries as to her identity with the laconic answer, "I am Mrs. Sheffield." "Guessing is free" and the like. Toward the close of the afternoon's session curiosity got the better of J. H. Callaghan, Mrs. Sheffield's counsel, and he asked Sheffield her name. "If you were more polite I might tell you," replied Sheffield.

This antagonistic the lawyer and he repeated the question. This time Mrs. Lane objected. After much talking, in which both lawyers and the witness joined and all were admonished by the court, the question was allowed. Sheffield said she was Miss Grace Potter and admitted that she had assisted him in his investigation. Asked about his attempts to effect a reconciliation, Sheffield said the first time he broached the subject was in the early part of 1911. He said that Mrs. Sheffield, although she did not assent to the plan, did not offer any opposition. He said he was consequently surprised when, four or five days later, she got him out of bed one morning about 6:30 o'clock—he had a half bedroom in a Japanese lodging house at 61 East Thirty-eighth street, which cost him \$4 a week—and when he appeared in the lower hall this is what she said:

"Justus Sheffield, I've come to tell you what my terms are. I want the entire control and custody of Barbara. I want an allowance. [Sheffield said he could not remember whether it was \$2,400 or \$3,400 a year.] I want a divorce. I don't agree to my terms, then I shall expose you. I shall write to every person you have dealings with and expose you."

Affection Goes With Money.

Sheffield said that his wife appeared to have great affection for him until she became financially involved in June, 1909, and when he went "flat broke" she apparently lost all interest in him. He said that one day he telephoned her and their home in Short Hills and asked her to join him in New York. He said he wanted her to help him get his nerves together and to comfort him.

"She refused to come, saying she had invited Charles Samuels, a New York lawyer, to spend the evening with her," Sheffield continued. "When I went home I saw them in a room on the second floor sitting very close together on a divan. I later took her to task for it and she said that she was being nice to Samuels for my sake because she wanted him to help me."

"A short time afterward when I was just doing off one night she kept me awake telling me how much she loved Samuels. She said she could not help it," added Sheffield.

Vice-Chancellor Lewis will set a date to-day or Monday for the resumption of the trial.

FINDS JOB WITH FREE BREAD.

Starving Man Saved by One Loaf a Day.

A man who has been living for the better half of a week with nothing to eat but the one loaf a day given to him at the Sun free bread depot in Prince Street was discovered yesterday. He lingered for the fraction of a second when Tom Merry handed him a loaf and looked longingly at the big pile of bread on the table.

"Could you use another loaf?" asked the understanding Tom.

"I sure could, brother. Thank you," said the man with a grin. "I haven't had anything else to eat for four days and everything helps. I know now what they mean about bread being the staff of life."

Investigation showed that the man, whose home is in Florida, had been set down in New York penniless when the ship on which he was working was discharged. A job which would have paid him so he can earn enough money to get back home.

The free bread depot gave away 400 loaves yesterday and will have as many to-day. The number will probably be increased to 700 next week.

C. L. Putnam yesterday sent a check for \$5 for Messrs. Merry and Bright. "Those gentlemen will know what use to put it to," he said. Edward Mason of 15 North Burnet street, East Orange, N. J., sent a dollar for the bread fund.

Jewish Fund Now \$965,880.

The treasurer of the American Jewish Relief Committee announced that the committee up to yesterday had received \$755,000 in cash and \$210,880 in pledges, making a total of \$965,880.

10 PER MONTH ON PLEDGE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

THE PROVIDENT LOAN SOCIETY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN, 5th Avenue, cor. 25th Street.
Fourth Avenue, cor. 11th Street.
Sixth Avenue, bet. 42nd and 43rd Sts.
Lexington Ave., cor. 124th Street.
Grand Street, cor. Clinton Street.
East 73rd St., bet. Lexington & 3d Aves.
43rd Street, bet. 3d and 4th Aves.

ATTACKS NEW TALE ABOUT THE CREATION

Dr. John P. Peters Disputes Prof. Langdon's Claims Regarding Translation.

EXPECTS GOOD RESULTS

The Rev. Dr. John P. Peters, known as one of the ablest Orientalists in this country, has attacked Prof. Stephen Langdon's claim to the discovery of a new tale of the Creation and the Flood from fragments of an early Assyrian clay tablet which he announced recently he had translated. In an article which appears in this week's *Charmers* Dr. Peters both denies that the translation can be assumed to be correct, and that even if correct it bears any relation to the Biblical story of the Garden of Eden and the Ark of Noah.

Dr. Peters for some time was a professor in the University of Pennsylvania and was at the head of the American expedition which investigated the ruins of the city of Nineveh in Assyria. Through his archaeological discoveries in Mesopotamia he was able to reconstruct many important and beclouded details of the ancient world.

Prof. Langdon's claim in part as follows: "The tablet is written in the ancient Sumerian language of Southern Babylonia, not in Semitic Babylonian. The latter can be read with a high degree of precision. The reading of Sumerian is still largely guess work, and few would be bold enough to claim any certainty for their reading of a Sumerian inscription of this kind and character."

"Taking, however, Langdon's own translation (it is in such literal shape that it should be called a transcript rather than a translation and cannot be understood without explanation), and his notes, I do not see how it can bear the interpretation he has given it. "I regret exceedingly to say that with the best will I can see no ground for supposing this tablet to contain a story to have anything to do with 'Paradise, the Flood or the Fall.' It is, however, an interesting document, and the fuller and further translations and interpretations will doubtless be made. The publication of the text will be awaited with interest. For, even if Dr. Langdon's bold effort to interpret this tablet seems to be a failure, the suit for a translation will lead others to make like attempts until finally we shall get a correct result."

MRS. KETCHUM GETS SEPARATION DECREE

Justice Blanchard Comments Sharply on Testimony Given by Husband.

Supreme Court Justice Blanchard, whose term expires to-day, handed down a decision yesterday in the separation case of Mrs. Ada Brown Ketchum against Everett Phoenix Ketchum, lawyer and Yale graduate, in which each asked a decree from the other. Justice Blanchard said only one of the charges against the husband was proved, and that the charges against her were not proved. He commented sharply on Ketchum's testimony.

Justice Blanchard pointed out that Ketchum admitted that he had lived with a mistress for eight years and that he introduced her as his wife in his church and among his friends. Ketchum said: "I certainly believe that I was living to the best of my ability and knowledge to please God. I always tried to." Justice Blanchard's comment on this was:

"If the defendant can find in such a situation something pleasing in the sight of God he can readily justify his own conscience in the perpetration of the act of his wife alleged against him and in giving false testimony concerning them. The defendant's veracity seems to be of the same plane as his morals. There must be a judgment for the plaintiff."

Mrs. Ketchum sued on the ground of cruel treatment, conduct making it unsafe to live with him and refusal to provide for her. The defendant charged among other things that his wife "intentionally and maliciously" and "in the presence of her mother upon him" and that she "conducted herself in a slovenly, immoral, bickering and unkind manner." The court said that the only charge against Mrs. Ketchum supported by proper evidence was the alleged abandonment of her husband, which she admitted. Mrs. Ketchum testified that she was justified in leaving her husband because of certain occurrences which she testified to at length. Concerning these incidents Justice Blanchard said:

"They are unfit for the ear or eye of a decent man. Even a reference to them creates a feeling of disgust toward the actors in them."

RUSSELL WON'T BE CANDIDATE.

Tells Socialists His Preparedness Views Are Not Party's.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—Charles Edward Russell has notified the national headquarters of the Socialist party that he declines to be a candidate for President.

Mr. Russell said his reasons for declining were that he believes many Socialists do not share his attitudes on the war, the causes and lessons of the war and the probable positions of the United States when the war shall end. Also he is informed that in the coming year the Socialist party will probably make a vigorous campaign against any preparation for defense on the part of the United States, and in view of existing facts he could not take active part in such a campaign.

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1/2 PER CENT. CHARGED ON LOANS REPAYED WITHIN TWO WEEKS FROM DATE

DYNAMITER SCHMIDT CONVICTED OF MURDERS

Mechanic Who Helped the McNamara Brothers Blow Up the Los Angeles "Times" Building May Get a Life Term.

Los Angeles, Dec. 30.—Matthew A. Schmidt, who was arrested in New York after a five year chase on a charge of being an accomplice of the McNamara brothers in the dynamiting of the Los Angeles Times plant was convicted to-day of murder in the first degree after the jury deliberated forty-five minutes.

The verdict was reached on the first ballot and included a recommendation of life imprisonment for Schmidt.

Following the verdict Judge Willis, who heard the case, announced that he would pronounce sentence Monday morning. Although there were many persons in the court room, there was no scene when the verdict was read.

Matthew A. Schmidt, with the McNamara brothers and other exponents of violence, dynamited the Los Angeles Times Building in 1910 and caused the death of twenty-one men employed by that newspaper.

The Times, owned and edited by Gen. Harrison Gray Otis, was an untiring and unflinching opponent of labor union violence, and had called upon itself by fearless denunciation the pent up hatred of the lawless agitators.

Schmidt was long at liberty after the McNamara brothers were arrested and convicted, but on the night of February 1, 1915, he was arrested in Columbus Circle here by Detective William J. Burns.

Burns could have locked Schmidt up weeks previously but delayed acting in the hope of being led by Schmidt to the accomplices in the Los Angeles murders. When Schmidt was arrested in police court here he was thin and ill, and wore a small mustache.

Schmidt is a mechanic and is 34 years of age. Of medium height, he dresses well and speaks clearly and easily. He has blond hair, but only one good eye, and wears a small mustache.

SWANN TO ANNOUNCE APPOINTMENTS TO-DAY

New District Attorney Expected to Retain 25 of Perkins's Staff for Time.

District Attorney-elect Swann will announce his appointments to his staff this afternoon. He said yesterday that Alfred J. Talley, who managed his campaign, would not be one of his statutory assistants. In making this fact known Judge Swann said:

"It is a source of extreme regret to me that I have been unable to persuade Alfred J. Talley to become one of my first assistants. His experience and ability as a trial lawyer would have added greatly to the strength of my staff, but I could not induce him to give up his private practice."

It is expected that Judge Swann will announce that he has retained, temporarily at least, more than twenty-five men now on the staff of District Attorney Alfred J. Talley.

It is the old story of men looking for impossible paradises and fountains of life and opening the way to the discovery of unimagined lands of reality. By the publication of these texts the University of Pennsylvania is rendering it possible for students the world over to study the material of the service at first hand, and so difficult are some of them that a long time may elapse and many mistakes be made before we obtain final results."

SOLID FOR FAIRBANKS.

Indiana G. O. P. for Him, Kentuckians Promise State.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Dec. 30.—Charles Warren Fairbanks was put into the Presidential race to-day by the Republican party of Indiana. His name was offered by Edward P. Morrow of Kentucky, who pledged Kentucky's support.

Among the speakers was W. E. Humphreys of Washington. All attendance records for the meeting were broken, the crowd including many from the fold of the Bull Moose.

A constructive policy for world trade was urged by Mr. Fairbanks, when he spoke, after a five minute ovation. He declared preparedness against industrial invasion was necessary as a national military preparedness. He advocated the establishment of banking and commercial houses all over the world.

When Alton B. Parker entered private practice in 1905, after his race for the Presidency, the firm name was Parker, Hatch & Company. Mr. Hatch having left the bench. It continued under that name until 1913, when Mr. Parker retired. The firm will remain as Hatch & Company.

Associated in the firm also are Louis B. Grant, Ashley T. Cole, son of the former Railroad Commissioner of the State, and Glenn M. Congdon.

INGRAHAM ENTERS LAW FIRM.

Retiring Presiding Justice to Be Partner of Sheehan.

Announcement has been made that the law firm of Ingraham, Sheehan & Moran will come into existence at 14 Wall street to-morrow morning.

The new firm is composed of George L. Ingraham, William F. Sheehan, Samuel P. Moran and Charles H. Warner and succeeds the older firm of Hatch & Sheehan.

Justice Ingraham, the new member of the firm, who will be Presiding Justice of the Appellate Division until mid-night to-night, succeeds former Justice Edward W. Hatch, who retired from active practice in October.

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ROOSEVELT IS FOR GOV. JOHNSON FIRST

Colonel's Close Friend, George E. Miller, So Declares in a Despatch.

Detroit, Dec. 30.—George E. Miller, the Washington correspondent of the Detroit News and a close friend of Col. Roosevelt, sends the following to his paper:

"One thing which has come very clearly to my understanding as the result of extended additional communication with Col. Roosevelt is that of all the Presidential possibilities his first preference for the Republican nomination is Gov. Johnson of California."

"Col. Roosevelt leaves no doubt in my mind that he believes Johnson could be elected, because if nominated he would have behind him the united strength of both the Progressive and Republican parties; also that he believes Johnson as President would be as finished and efficient an official as he has been in the Governor's chair."

"But the inference is to be drawn that the Colonel has not attempted to have behind him for much the same reason that makes him think a Roosevelt boom would not be opportune, though, to be sure, Johnson has not indicted the German Government."

"It is not fair to Col. Roosevelt, however, to indicate that he is anything to lead one to believe him willing to select any one man to push for the Presidency at this time, nor any one man to oppose. It is quite evident to me that he does not propose to assume that position. When he says he would support Hughes, Hadley, Knox, Johnson or Herrick he means men of type and not individuals. Of course by this he means that he would not support men who does not come up to that standard."

"Col. Roosevelt gives me the distinct impression that he is not disposed to throw a monkey wrench into the machinery unless the Old Guard first proves conclusively that it cannot forget and cannot learn."

"The great volume of demands from Republicans that he permit himself to be put forward continues to pour in upon Col. Roosevelt. To all of these letters I have reason to believe he returns but one reply. 'This is that he is not engaged in trying to rally men about himself personally, but to rally them about the ideas he is supporting. One he sent to Gov. Stokes of New Jersey reads:

"DEAR GOVERNOR: That's mighty nice of you. I do not care to have people send things to me personally, but I very much care to have them come round to the ideas I am championing."

"It is fair to add that during a rather long experience with the Colonel I never have observed that a man went wrong if he took Roosevelt at his word."

SENATE NOT FOR McADOO.

Will Not Be Candidate to Succeed O'Gorman, He Says.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—It was stated authoritatively at the Treasury Department to-day in comment on a report that Senator O'Gorman plans to retire and that Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo will become a candidate to succeed him, that Mr. McAdoo does not know what Senator O'Gorman's plans are, that he has no desire to succeed the Senator and that under no conditions will he be a candidate for the Senate from New York in the next election.

NEW MEDICINE LAW UPHOLD.

Attorney-General Thinks City Has Power to Enforce Ordinance.

ALBANY, Dec. 30.—Attorney-General Woodbury has advised the State Board of Pharmacy that there is nothing in the State laws which conflict with the ordinance of the New York City Board of Health to enforce the ordinance compelling the registration of all ingredients of proprietary and patent medicines sold in New York city.

The ordinance becomes effective to-morrow.

The agency states that Carranza has ordered every physician connected with his government to place his services at the disposal of the Board of Health in Mexico city.

ALDERMEN PICK SLATER.

Democrats Select Downing as Man to Succeed McNamara as President.

The Democratic members of the Board of Aldermen which will come into being to-morrow held a caucus yesterday to decide upon candidates to be voted for Monday at the organization meeting.

Frank L. Downing, an Alderman for eighteen years and minority leader for the last two years, is the choice for vice-chairman. He will become President of the Board when Mr. McNamara retires next month. Francis P. Kenny of the Forty-ninth district, Brooklyn, was named for chairman of the finance committee and Frank J. Dotzler, who failed to be re-elected from the Sixth district for City Clerk.

Since there are fifty-four Democrats and only twenty Republicans the Democratic candidates will probably win. At the meeting Monday a sergeant at arms and eight assistants will be elected and the chairman and members of the various committees will be announced.

67 FIRMS CHARTERED IN DAY.

10,422 Certificates of Incorporation Taken Out in the Year.

ALBANY, Dec. 30.—The present wave of general business prosperity was reflected at the office of Secretary of State Hugo to-day, when all of the records in the number of new stock companies incorporated in a single day in this State were broken. A total of sixty-seven new concerns took out the necessary papers to-day under which they will do business. The best previous day was sixty-two.

With one day's business still to come a total of 10,422 certificates of incorporation have been filed by stock companies with Secretary Hugo this year, as compared with 9,343 in 1914.

CARRANZA CHANGES RULE OF SUCCESSION

Foreign Relations Minister to Succeed President Instead of Army Chief.

VILLA COMING TO U. S.

EL PASO, Dec. 30.—Officials of the New Mexico Northwestern Railroad received information from Casa Grande to-night that Gen. Villa had reached there and was sending a messenger to the border to ask for amnesty and permission to cross through Juarez to El Paso.

Thus far Carranza has given no reply to the request of the State Department that he grant permission to the American Red Cross and the Rockefeller Institute to send nurses, doctors and hospital supplies to Mexico city to fight the plague. While it is said in Mexican quarters here that this request probably will be granted, the Carranza agency got out a statement declaring that reports of the extent of the plague were exaggerated.

The agency states that Carranza has ordered every physician connected with his government to place his services at the disposal of the Board of Health in Mexico city.

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With a power that equals H. G. Wells at his best and an imagination that rivals Jules Verne's some German Poet (identity a mystery) has sent shivers throughout England with this stirring tale.

Here are descriptions of aerial battles, sea battles, land battles to set the fingers of artists tingling to paint the scenes. A story of terrific situations and tense dramatic power.

The volume has just reached the United States. THE SUN has translated a review of it and tells the story of the wonderful volume and its effect abroad in a three page article (illustrated). Do you recall the words of the great German militarist: "My God, what a city to loot!"

In Next Sunday's Sun

Kaffee HAG Corporation, 225 Fifth Avenue, New York